

# BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## A Collaborative Effort: How Attendance Teams Work

*Every Student, Every Day Attendance and Truancy Spring Institute*  
*Williamsburg, VA*  
*April 12-13, 2016*

Presenters:

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Mrs. Sherri West-Barber, Attendance/Enrollment Specialist

# Objectives

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Participants will.....

- Engage in professional discourse regarding attendance facts, relevant terms, and data;
- Explore City Schools expectations as outlined in the Attendance Toolkit and district priorities to improve attendance outcomes;
- Examine the data set captured on the Climate Report to determine the composition of an attendance team and action plan goals, strategies, resources, and incentives for targeting areas of improvement

# Norms

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# Attendance

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*“Because students reared in poverty benefit the most from being in school, one of the most effective strategies for providing pathways out of poverty is to do what it takes to get these students in school every day. This alone, even without improvements in the American education system, will drive up achievement, high school graduation, and college attainment rates”.*

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# DO NOW ACTIVITY-True or False

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1. Students who are absent are more likely to be held back.

True

2. Truancy includes excused and unexcused absences.

False

3. An estimated 2 to 4 million US students miss nearly a month of school each year.

False

4. By grade 9, chronic absence becomes a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school.

False

5. Low-income students are two times more likely to be chronically absent than others.

False

# Attendance Definitions

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## At-Risk of Chronic Absence (ARCA)

- A measurement of how many students will potentially be chronically absent by end of year, if they maintain the same attendance trends.

## Chronic Absence

- Missing more than 20 school days in an academic year (excused or unexcused, enrolled for at least 90 days)

## Habitually Truant

- Absent more than 20% of school days in a year (unexcused)

## Average Daily Attendance (ADA)

- % of enrolled students who attend school each day

## Excused Absences

- Illness, court summons, hazardous weather conditions, school approved activities, religious holiday, state emergency, suspension, death, and transportation

## Unexcused Absences

- An absence not observed as an excused/lawful absence

# Comparative Data

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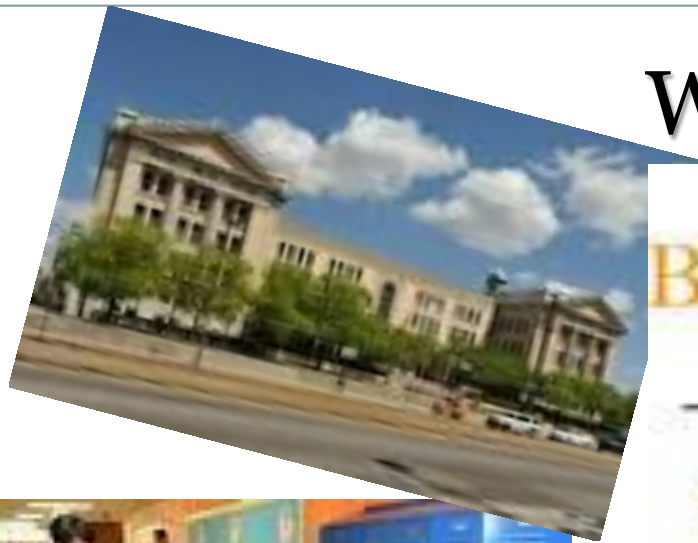
## Enrollment Numbers and Attendance Percentage

	Elementary	Middle	High
Anne Arundel 79,518	≥95%	≥95%	93%
<b>Baltimore City</b> <b>84,976</b>	93%	92.1%	82.4%
Baltimore County 109,830	≥95%	94.8%	92.1%
Harford County 37,536	≥95%	≥95%	94.1%
Howard County 53,685	≥95%	≥95%	≥95%
Prince Georges 127,576	≥95%	≥95%	92.3%

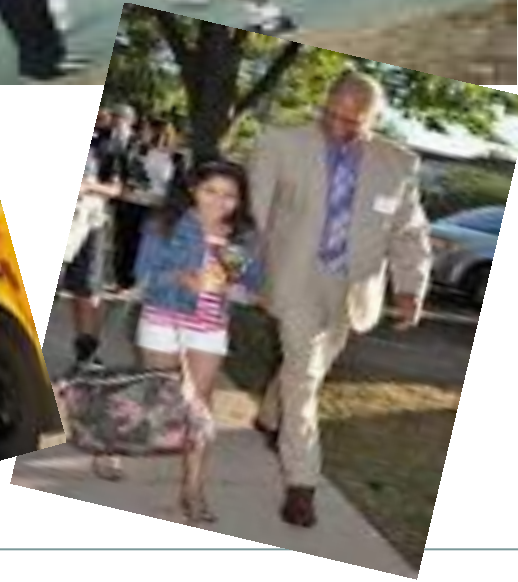
SOURCE: MSDE Report Card



# Who We are



BALTIMORE  
CITY  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS





# Student Enrollment

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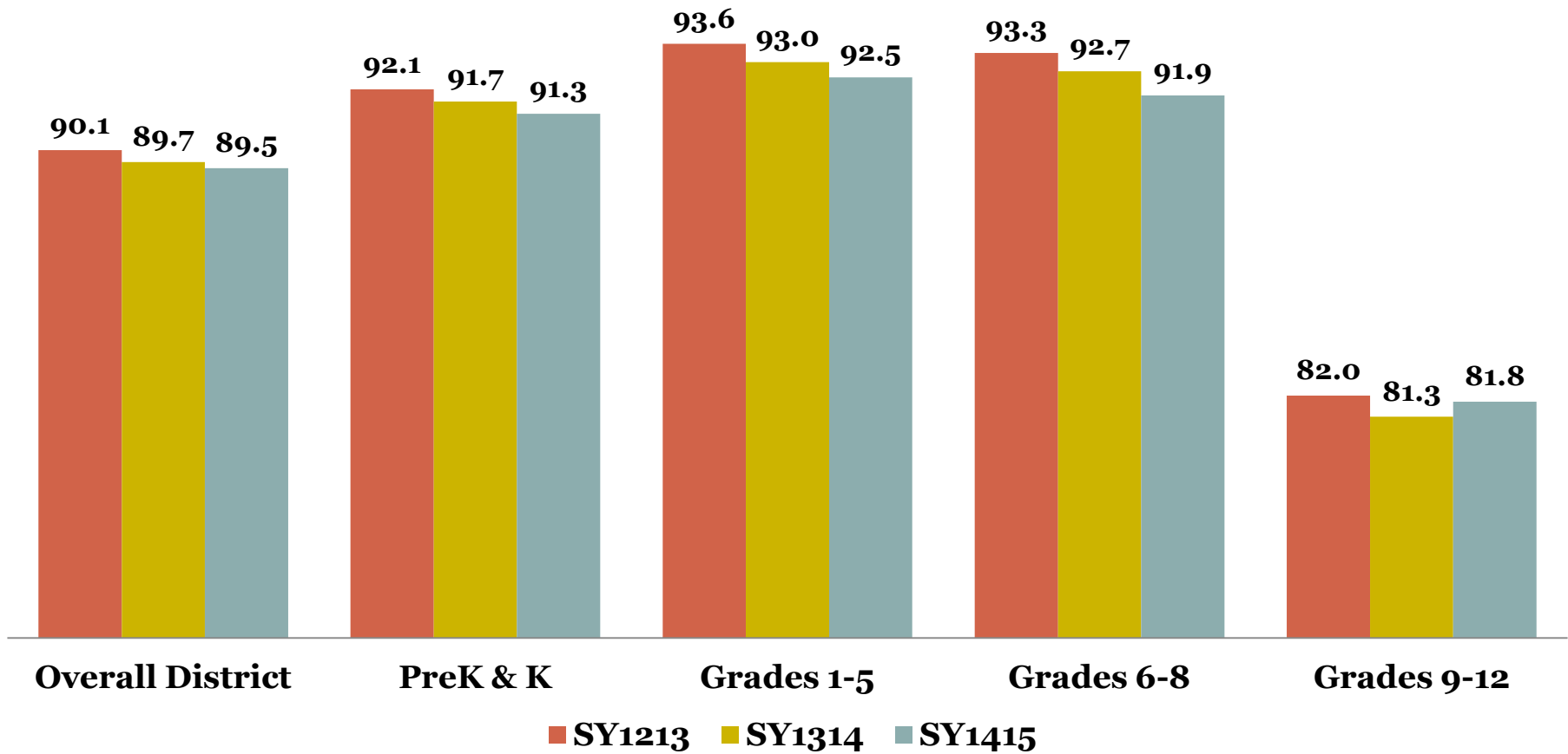
## Official Student Count

	<b>SY1213</b>	<b>SY1314</b>	<b>SY1415</b>
<b>Overall District</b>	<b>84,747</b>	<b>84,730</b>	<b>84,976</b>
PreK & K	12,161	12,112	12,115
Grades 1 – 5	32,219	32,674	33,470
Grades 6 – 8	16,995	17,062	17,050
Grades 9 – 12	23,372	22,882	22,341

SOURCE: MSDE Report Card

# Attendance Rate (%)-Grade Band

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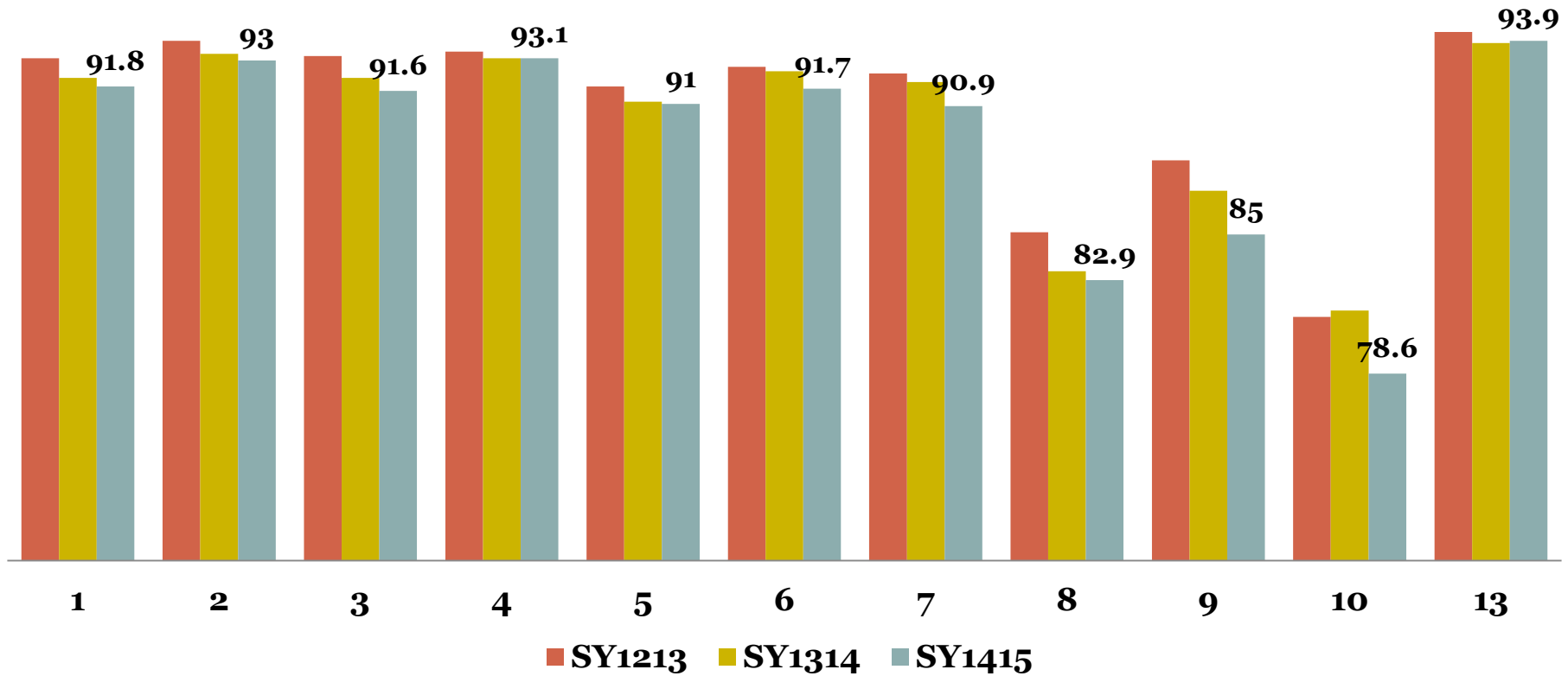


SOURCE: Official MSDE files

# Attendance Rate (%)

## Community Learning Network

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NOTE: All data is based on SY2015-16 Community Learning Networks, even if the schools were in different Networks in previous years; rates are listed for SY1415 only

SOURCE: Official MSDE files

# Chronically Absent Students-Grade Band

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## # Chronically Absent Students at End of Year

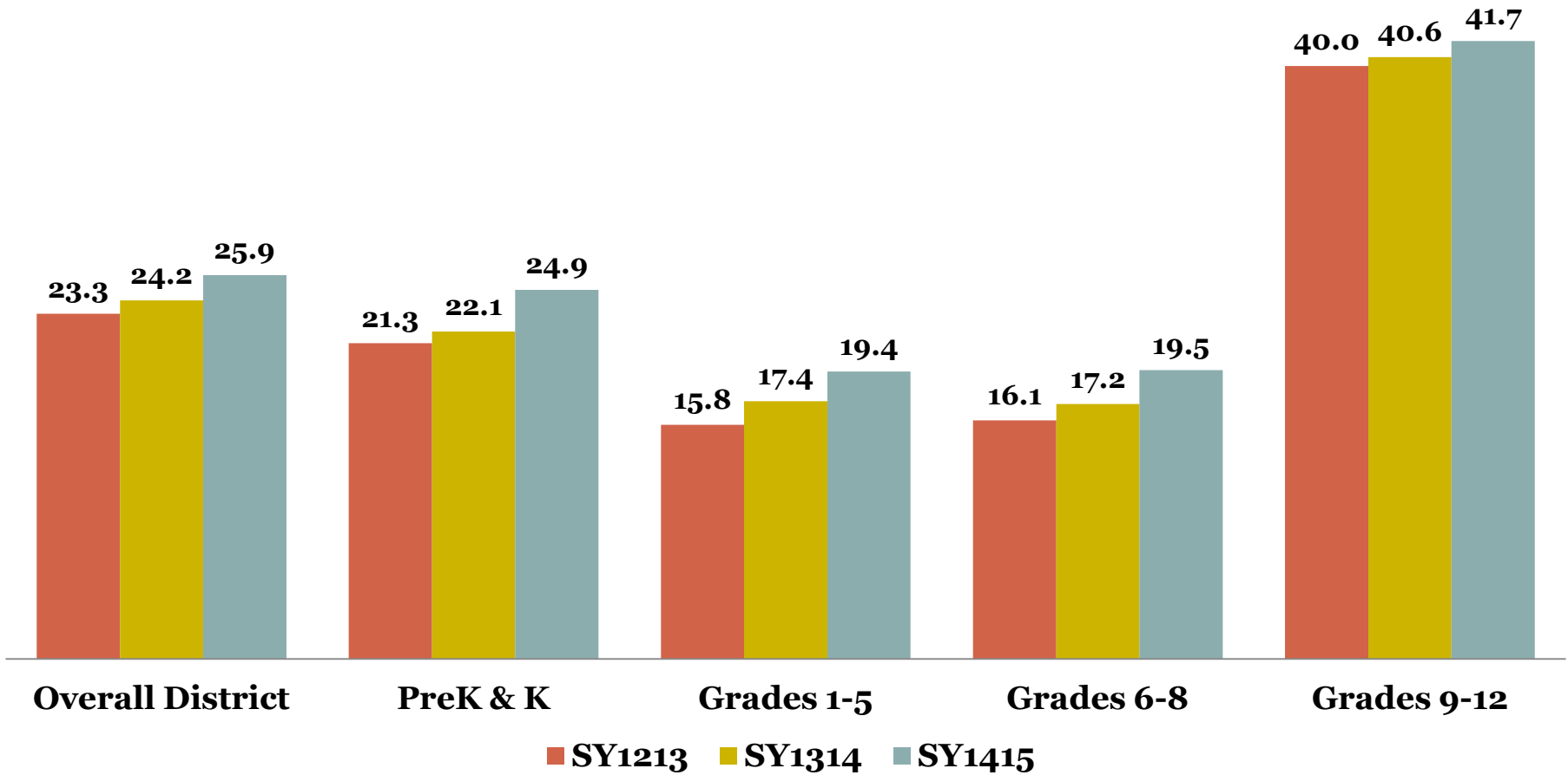
	<b>SY1213</b>	<b>SY1314</b>	<b>SY1415</b>
<b>Overall District</b>	<b>19,581</b>	<b>20,243</b>	<b>21,597</b>
PreK & K	2,583	2,698	3,034
Grades 1 – 5	5,055	5,639	6,473
Grades 6 – 8	2,723	2,903	3,261
Grades 9 – 12	9,220	9,003	8,829

NOTE: Official Chronic Absence is defined as enrolled for at least 90 school days with more than 20 days absent

SOURCE: Official MSDE files

# Chronically Absent (%)-Grade Band

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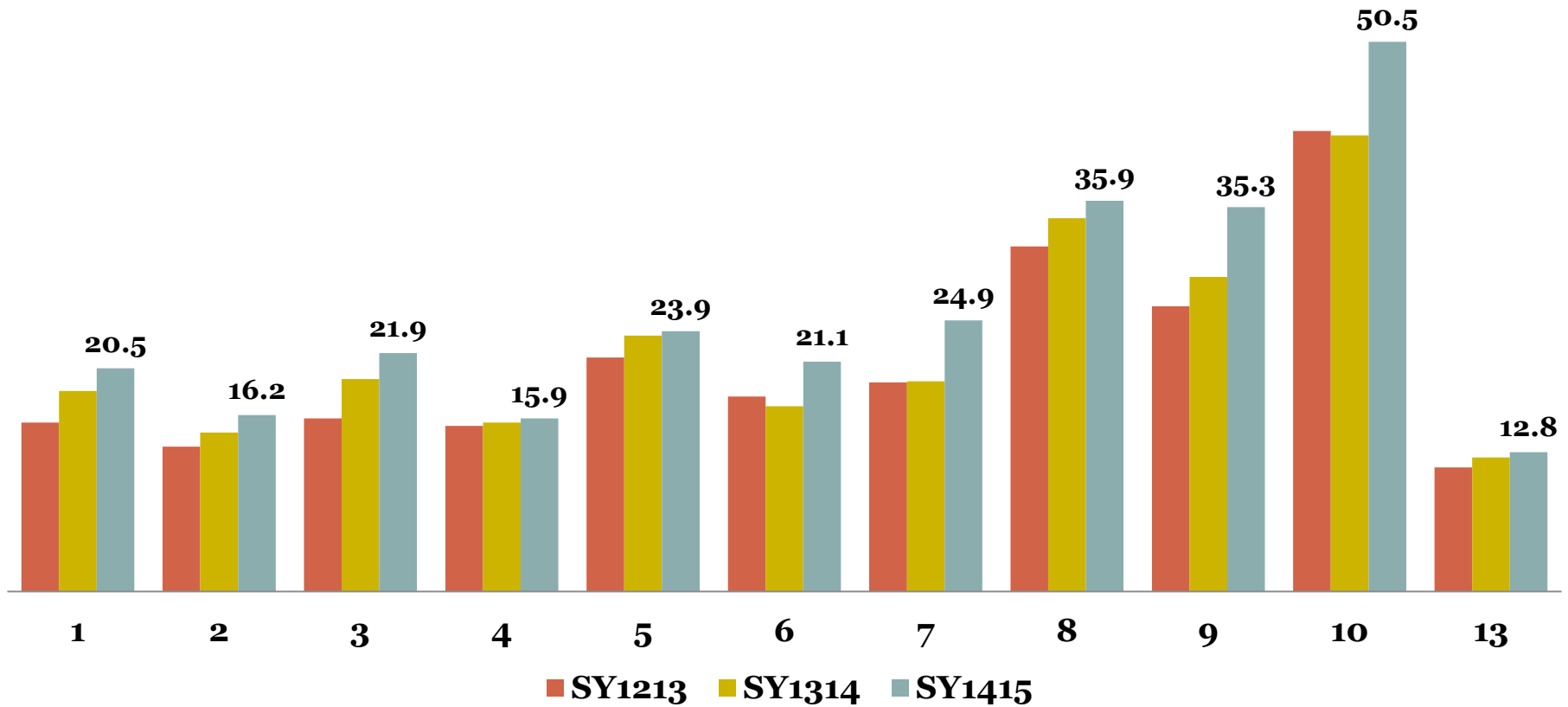
NOTE: Official Chronic Absence is defined as enrolled for at least 90 school days with more than 20 days absent

SOURCE: Official MSDE files

# Chronically Absent (%)

## Community Learning Network

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NOTE: All data is based on SY2015-16 Community Learning Networks, even if the schools were in different Networks in previous years; rates are listed for SY1415 only

SOURCE: Official MSDE files



# Improving Student Attendance : Attendance Toolkit

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## 5 Universal Strategies

**Reward good and  
improved student  
attendance**

**Engage  
students and  
parents**

**Monitor  
attendance  
data**

**Provide early  
outreach to  
students with  
alarmingly  
attendance patterns**

**Identify  
community  
partners to tackle  
barriers**

# Climate Report Activity

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After reviewing the climate report, brainstorm with your peers to determine the following:

- Who should participate on your attendance team?
- What will be your goals and/or priorities?
- What groups will be targeted?
- List a few potential strategies

# A Multi-Tiered Approach

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## Tier 4

### **Re-engagement**

**15+ ABSENCES**

Refer to community Partner

Refer to Truancy Court

## Tier 3

### **Targeted Intervention**

Include Community Partners

Offer Flexible Scheduling

Provide Student Mentors

**11-14 ABSENCES**

## Tier 2

### **Early Intervention**

Refer to SST (student Support Team)

Call and visit home

Connect with students/families

**4-10 ABSENCES**

## Tier 1

### **Universal Strategies of Prevention**

Safe, supportive and welcoming school climate

Attendance recognition, incentives, initiatives

Record and submit daily attendance

**EVERYONE**

[www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org)

BALTIMORE CITY

GREAT KIDS  
GREAT SCHOOLS

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Attendance

## Team

## Members:

- Administrator
- Attendance Monitor
- Social Worker
- Guidance Counselor
- Community Partner
- SST Chair
- Teachers (all grade levels)
- Parent and student member



Who should be at the table?

# Attendance Plans

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- ❖ School-Wide
- ❖ Goal-Orientated
- ❖ Prioritized
- ❖ Set Targets
- ❖ Strategy-Based
- ❖ Time Specific
- ❖ Incentivized

Fluid in nature!!!!

# District Initiatives

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- Attendance Collaborative
- Attendance Matters
- Attendance Mediation
- District Attendance Competition
- Get Schooled National Attendance Challenge
- Mayor's Fall & Spring Attendance Challenges
- “Target 25”



# Central Office Supports

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## Office of School Supports

- School Support Liaisons
- Enrollment and Attendance Team
- CEIS (Coordinating Early Intervening Services)
- School Support Managers

## Chief Academic Office

- Instructional Leadership Executive Director
- Special Education Liaisons

## Family and Community Engagement

- Attendance Collaborative
- Department of Social Services
- C.I.N.S (Department of Juvenile Services)
- Mayor's Office

# Making the Mark

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## How is Progress Determined?



- ☐ YTD attendance rates
- ☐ Attendance per target group
- ☐ Participation in incentivized activities
- ☐ Attendance Team meetings
- ☐ Actualized strategies from action plans



- ☐ Un-submitted attendance rates
- ☐ ARCA rates
- ☐ Suspension
- ☐ Attendance/Truancy Referrals
- ☐ Student Movement

# Comments or Questions?



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# BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## **Board Of School Commissioners**

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Tina Hike-Hubbard, *Vice-Chair*

Lisa Akchin

Muriel Berkeley

Cheryl Casciani

Linda Chinnia

Andrew “Andy” Frank

Martha James-Hassan

Peter Kannam

Jonathan Townes, *Student Commissioner*

A.J. Bellido de Luna, *Board Executive Officer*

## **Senior Management Team**

Gregory Thornton, *Chief Executive Officer*

Naomi Gubernick, *Chief of Staff*

Linda Chen, *Chief Academic Officer*

Theresa Jones, *Chief Achievement and Accountability Officer*

Donald Kennedy, Sr., *Chief Financial Officer*

Karl Perry, Sr., *Chief School Supports Officer*

Keith Scroggins, *Chief Operations Officer*

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Kenneth Thompson, *Chief Technology Officer*

Tammy Turner, *Chief Legal Officer*